

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets include changes to Figs. 1–3 and replaces the original sheets with Figs.1–3.

Figures 1–3 have been amended to add descriptive legends.

Attachment: (3) Replacement sheets

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and the following remarks are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

The drawings have been objected to for failing to show the described labels on the drawings. Figs. 1–3 have been amended to add descriptive labels.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph for lack of support for “independent of the signal transmitted through the information channel, and implementing adjustments in the receiver according to the configuration parameters to enable demodulation of the signal transmitted through the information channel.” For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that these limitations are adequately supported in the specification.

As set forth in the abstract: “In the invention, configuration parameters are transmitted through a control channel (110...113) to the receiver (1), said transmission through said control channel (110...113) *being independent of any transmission implemented through the information channel (120).*” The specification further explains on page 4 at lines 4–11:

Switching, i.e. tuning to a specific carrier frequency and hence to a given audio signal, is not initiated in the receiver 1 per se in the present invention, but instead and in preferred manner by using one of control channels 110, 112, 113. In the preferred embodiment of the transmission system of the invention, *the information channel 120 used by the audio signal in no way shall transmit any other data.* On one hand this feature allows switching from one audio signal to another without requiring manual adjustments in the receiver 1. On the other hand

the receiver 1 can be remote-controlled, allowing wide applicability of the transmission system of the invention as discussed below.

(Emphasis added.) Clearly, there is sufficient disclosure in the above cited passages of the limitation “independent of the signal transmitted through the information channel,” as set forth in claim 1.

As set forth in the abstract: “On the basis of the transmitted configuration parameters, adjustments are implemented in the receiver (1), in particular relating to demodulating the signal (S_{in}) transmitted through the information channel.” On page 5, line 19 to page 6, line 1, the specification further explains that:

It is highly significant in the present invention that the user of the hearing aid 100, which is coupled to the receiver 1 of the invention, need not tune this aid to a given channel, including a particular carrier frequency, or ascertain which signal processing is required in order to receive and hear the desired audio signal, *because these steps are implemented by the receiver 1 which shall be configured by the configuration parameters picked up by the receiving coil 15.*

(Emphasis added.) Clearly, there is sufficient disclosure in the above cited passages of the limitation “implementing adjustments in the receiver according to the configuration parameters to enable demodulation of the signal transmitted through the information channel.”

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph for lack of support for “means for generating and transmitting configuration parameters for enabling demodulation of the signal, and the configuration parameters being transmitted independent of the signal.” For the same reasons as explained above with regard to claim 1, there is sufficient disclosure in the

specification (e.g., in the Abstract, on page 4, lines 4–11, and on page 5, lines 19–24) to support these limitations.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph for lack of support for “a demodulator to generate demodulated signals based on configuration parameters.” It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has taken this limitation somewhat out of context, since the phrase “to generate demodulated signals based on configuration parameters” refers back to the entire phrase: “the signals being received at an antenna connected through a filter-amplifier unit and a consecutive mixer to a demodulator,” not just to “a demodulator.” As explained in the specification, a signal (S_{IN}) is received at an antenna (A) is connected through a filter/amplifier unit (2) and a mixer (3) to a demodulator (4) for demodulation. As set forth in the specification with reference to Fig. 2, “The transceiver coil already discussed in relation to Fig. 1 is denoted by 15 and *receives the configuration parameters* through the so-called separate control channel. To tune this transceiving coil 15 operating as an antenna, a series capacitor 16 follows said coil and preferably shall be variable. The transceiver coil 15 and the capacitor 16 are connected to a transceiver 8 *which in turn is connected to the adjustment unit 7.*” (Emphasis added.) The adjustment unit (7) controls a synthesizer (6) which is connected to a second input of the mixer (3). **Thus, as set forth in the specification, configuration parameters received by the adjustment unit (7) are used to control the output of the synthesizer (6), which is mixed with the signal (S_{IN}) by the mixer (3) to facilitate the demodulation of the signal (S_{IN}) by the demodulator (4). This clearly supports the claim limitation “the signals being received at an antenna connected through a filter-amplifier unit and a consecutive mixer to a demodulator to generate demodulated signals based on configuration parameters, the mixer being loaded with an output signal from a synthesizer which is controlled by a control unit,” as set forth in claim 14.**

Claims 11–13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,721,783 to Anderson. For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claim 11, Anderson does not teach “the signal being transmitted from one of the at least one transmitters to the receiver,” and “means for generating and transmitting configuration parameters...the configuration parameters being transmitted independent of the signal,” as required. As claimed, these limitations require two independent channels: one for transmitting the signal and one for transmitting the configuration parameters *independent of the signal*. Anderson does not teach a communication channel over which configuration parameters are received. Therefore, since every limitation of the claim is not taught, claim 11 and its dependent claims 12 and 13 are not anticipated by Anderson.

Claims 1, 3–4, 6–10 and 18–20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Anderson in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,710,819 to Topholm. For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

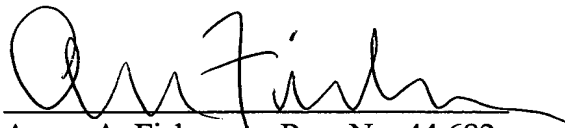
Regarding claim 1, neither Anderson nor Topholm nor any combination thereof teaches or suggests “transmitting configuration parameters through a control channel independent of the signal transmitted through the information channel,” as required. The Examiner acknowledges that Anderson does not teach such a control channel for transmitting configuration parameters, and thus Topholm is cited for teaching this limitation. Topholm teaches a control channel, but does not disclose or suggest that it contains configuration parameters to configure the information channel, as in claim 1. Thus, even if Anderson and Topholm were combined, the resulting combination would still not teach or suggest using the control channel as claimed. Therefore, since every limitation of the claim is not taught or suggested by the combination of references, claim 1 and its dependent claims 3–4, 6–10 and 18–20 are patentable over the prior art of record.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 32978.

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By: 
Aaron A. Fishman – Reg. No. 44,682

1801 East 9th Street
Suite 1200
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-3108
(216) 579-1700

Date: November 23, 2005